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ABSTRACT

Social capital creates or reinforces the mutual trust that binds people together. Some of the traditional human values in Asia and the cultural changes Asians face in order to survive in an era of globalization are presented in this collection of essays. The chapters emphasize the strong influence of values on education, the role of education in building social capital, and the necessity of expanding social capital in order to enhance human potential. In chapter 1 ("Defining Values"), John M. Heffron reviews the historical antecedents of some current philosophical interpretations of values relating to education and development. In chapter 2 ("Are Asian Values Different?"), John D. Montgomery looks at whether these values differ as regards fundamental issues. In chapter 3 ("Diffusion of Values and the Pacific Rim"), Nathan Glazer presents comparative cultural and historical evidence identifying core values in the Pacific Rim. In chapter 4 ("Continuity and Change in Popular Values on the Pacific Rim"), Alex Inkeles offers empirical measures of values arising in the context of social changes that attend modernization. In chapter 5 ("Education as Communication"), Ruth Hayhoe documents some of the processes by which formal and nonformal education actually communicate values. In chapter 6 ("Measuring Impact of Social Value and Change"), Wing-On Lee addresses the difficult problem of identifying and measuring the impact of changing values on individuals and society. In chapter 7 ("Promoting Human Rights in East Asian Value: Basic Education's Role"), William L. Cummings shows how values have infused the Japanese educational system, and in chapter 8 ("Engineering Values: Education Policies and Values Transmission"), Kai-ming Cheng examines the extent to which values can be engineered. (RJM)

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